



HF Happenings 537

December 2012

South African Radio League * Suid-Afrikaanse Radioliga
Member Society of the International Amateur Radio Union since 1925
www.sarl.org.za www.iaru.org www.iaru-r1.org

Hunting Lions-in-the-Air

The event takes place on the weekend closest to 13 January, the birth date of Melvin Jones, the founder of the Lions organisation. In 2013, that will be the weekend of 12 and 13 January.

It will not be a contest but merely a means for Lions to exchange greetings with other Lions and Lions Clubs. Radio amateurs and members of the various Lions Clubs get together and the Lions are allowed to exchange greetings with other Lions under supervision of the radio amateur. Normally the name and number of the Lions Club is the exchange.



Contact Rad Handfield-Jones, ZS6RAD rad.handfield-jones@pixie.co.za and Willie Axford, ZS5WI zs5wi@telkomsa.net for more information.

SA Band Country Survey

Chris, ZS6EZ, says "Gents, the end of the year is approaching again. 2012 has been a good year, with reasonable high-band propagation and many high-profile DXpeditions. You would be aware that I maintain the Southern Africa Band Country Survey at <http://zs6ez.org.za/lists/bands/latest.htm>

I hope to publish the annual list (with a Top 10 in each category) during January. 2013 will be the last year in which I publish the SABCS. DXCC, with the help of LotW, has now become so easy and affordable, that there is no excuse not to apply for DXCC. From 2014, I will only publish the DXCC listings. They are already there at <http://zs6ez.org.za/lists/dxcc-zs.htm>.

There is also a complete history of DXCC in South Africa, a DXCC Honour Roll list and a full history going back to 1945 in the Rogues' Gallery at <http://zs6ez.org.za/lists/>

For the survey, please let me have your latest scores on each band. Please include all bands, even if you are not in the Top Six yet. Some ground rules:

- * Include only current countries. Deleted do not count.
- * Include all worked countries, regardless of QSL or DXCC credit status.
- * Please e-mail me your totals. Just collating them is a lot of work, and I cannot go digging on your Web site nor do complex calculations to find the info.

Finally, if you know of anyone else who has not received this message and who is a DXer in southern Africa, please let me know about them, and let them know about the Survey."

DXCC News

Both 5T0SP - Mauritania 2012 and ZL9HR - Auckland & Campbell Islands 2012 have been approved for DXCC credit.

"Amateur radio is the most exciting of all technological hobbies"





DXpedition of the Year Poll

The DX World.net 2012 DXpedition of the Year poll is now open at <http://dx-world.net/>. "This was an incredibly difficult poll to decide on considering so many notable expeditions took place during the last 12 months. It is conceivable that up to 40 different DXpeditions could have been nominated, however, a short-list of 26 made the poll. In previous years, the poll was limited to three or five votes. This year we have decided to allow 'free' votes on as many DXpeditions you wish to select. In addition, to prevent repeat votes, an account must be created using your call sign and QRZ.com listed email address. Once created you will receive an e-mail then you are ready to vote". The poll closes on 15 January 2013 - cast your votes!

10th Antarctic Activity Week in February

Look for the 10th Antarctic Activity Week (AAW) to take place between 18 and 24 February 2013. Worldwide Antarctic Program (WAP) www.waponline.it promotes this event each year to improve the worldwide attention about the Antarctic Continent and its related matters with the aim of staying close to the researchers and personnel who are spending their time away from home and families, studying the Antarctic life and its secrets in the so many remote scientific stations in this icy continent. The WAP is also thankful for what the Nations and Research Foundations are doing to protect this still uncontaminated corner of the planet and to share a message of peace among the world. The AAW is a unique event worldwide where radio amateurs (in any corners of the world) sign up and help promote the special attention given to the Antarctica. This worldwide event is open to all radio amateurs wishing to join them using a special call sign, which help promote the Antarctica.

All SES with a WAP reference number will qualify for WAP ASEA (Antarctic Special Events Award). The WAP Ref number for any special call sign requested/issued for this occurrence can be provided upon request by sending an e-mail to I1HYW (QRZ.com). The list of participants is still open and is available at <http://www.waponline.it/Default.aspx?tabid=113>

AAW Activities Announced.....

HFOA (WAP-237) SES (Special Event Station) working AAW. Janusz, SP9YI, informs that he will work as HFOA between 15 January and 28 February 2013 and in particular during 10th AAW. QSL via SP9YI. Janusz already holds WAP-215 for HF36POL and WAP 216 for HF35APAS for past activities, and now he has WAP-237, for HFOA.

AO1ICE (WAP-233) SES working AAW. During the 10th AAW, a group of Spanish operators - EC1KV, EB1LA, EA1CUB, EA1CS, EA1WX, EA1AUM and EA1WK will be on the air, this time with the special call sign AO1ICE just issued. Operations will be on 160 - 10 meters and the WARC bands, using SSB, CW and RTTY PSK31. As in the previous years, the log will be uploaded every day on ClubLog and also on their website created for this activity at <http://ea1wk.blogspot.com.es/2012/12/ao1ice-10-antarctic-activity-week-wap.html>

December

29 to 31 – Vic Falls Carnival 2012, Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe
31 – New Year's Festival of Lights, Nieu-Bethesda

January 2013

1 – New Year's Day
9 – Inland schools open
12 and 13 – Hunting Lions in the Air
16 – Coastal schools open
18 to 20 – PEARS National VHF/UHF contest
19 – Wild Flower Day, Chrissie-meer
26 – Summer QRP Sprint
26 – Draaf and Trap Night Race, Ottosdal
31 - Last day for submission of nominations for councillors for the next term and motions for the 2013 AGM





Special thanks to Tony, EC7ZK, who designed the 2013 AAW QSL; Vlad, UA6JD, for listing them on QRZ.com and to Max, IK8LOV, for the online log availability. QSLs for AO1ICE can be requested via EA1WK, by the Bureau or direct via the OQRS.

The full list of SES participating the 10th AAW is updated regularly at the WAP Web site, check <http://www.waponline.it>

African DX

Kenya, 5Z. Bertrand, DF3ZS, and Thomas, DL1QW, will be active holiday-style from Diani Beach, Kenya, between 7-20 January 2013. Activity on 80 to 10 m using CW, SSB and RTTY using dipoles, GP and vertical loops. QSL via home calls, direct or via the DARC bureau.

Burundi, 9U. An international team of operators from ON, PA and GM will be on the air from Bujumbura between 14 and 23 February 2013. In total they will have 9 operators and four stations and airing the call sign 9U4U. Operators currently mentioned are Patrick, ON4HIL, Theo, ON4ATW, Marc, ON6CC, Luc, ON4IA, Ronald, PA3EWP, Marc, ON4AMX, Stefaan, ON4FG, and Franky, ON7RU. Activity will be on 160 - 10 metres using CW, SSB and RTTY. QSL Manager will be MOURX. A Web site is now online at <http://www.9u4u.be>. This DXpedition will also have a Twitter page. In addition, the "Belgian Rockall Team" organises this DXpedition.

African Islands

Rodriguez Island, 3B9. Juha, OH1LEG, is now active as 3B9/OH1LEG from Baie du Nord, Rodriguez Island (AF-017, WFF 3BFF-004, WLOTA 4265) until 7 January 2013. Activity will be holiday style on 160 - 10 metres using SSB, RTTY and PSK31. QSL direct only to his home call sign.

Special Event Stations

Ireland, EI. Throughout 2013, Irish families and clans will be coming together in thousands of events, both on the island and around the globe, to celebrate their history and heritage in a unique event called 'The Gathering' www.thegatheringireland.com. The special event call sign EI13CLAN will be active throughout the year and there will be a variety of awards and other activities, details of which will be posted on the Irish Radio Transmitters Society's website www.irts.ie/thegathering. QSL via bureau or direct to the QSL manager EI6AL.

Great Britain, G. Celebrating the Radio Society of Great Britain's centenary, special event stations call sign Gx100RSGB (where "x" is replaced by the secondary location identifier, M, W, I, D, U and J as appropriate) will be used from 1 January until 31 December 2013 from a number of different locations in the UK. The licence plan approved is for thirteen 28 day periods, allowing each RSGB Region to operate the special event station. Between 1 and 28 January look for G100RSGB from North West England and for GD100RSGB from the Isle of Man on 20 - 21 January. Further information can be found at www.rsgb.org/centenary

Switzerland, HB9. HB300K is the special call sign the Tera Radio Club will use throughout 2013 to celebrate their 30th anniversary. QSL via HB9OCR, direct or bureau. Information on the relevant award can be found on qrz.com





Italy, I. The Extreme DX & Contest Group will use special call sign II3CV between 12 January and 12 February to celebrate the Carnival of Venice. QSL via IK3HHX, direct or bureau. Information on the relevant award can be found at www.extremegroup.org

Macedonia, Z3. The Z3 prefix was issued to Macedonia (previously YU5) twenty years ago. To celebrate this anniversary, Z320RSM (for the Radio Amateur Society of Macedonia) and other twenty-six Z320 call signs (from Z320A to Z320Z) will be used throughout 2013. QSL via operators' instructions.

Other DX

Contest Calendar

This week's contests compiled by Bruce Horn, WA7BNM. The period covered is 24 to 31 December 2012.

Lighthouse Christmas Lights QSO Party

00:01 UTC 21 December to 23:59 UTC 2 January

Mode: Any

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: (none)

Exchange: Members: Member no, name, state, province or country; Non-Members: Serial no, name, state, province or country; Lighthouse/Lightship: ARHLS no, name, state, province or country

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO; 2 additional points per QSO with member; 3 additional points per QSO with lighthouse/lightship; Bonus: x2 multiplier for all points if participant activated a lighthouse/lightship

Multipliers: (none)

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points

Submit logs by: 31 January 2013

E-mail logs to: (none)

Mail logs to: Dave Ruch, NFOJ, PO Box 20696, Bloomington, MN 55420-0696, USA

Find rules at: <http://arlhs.com/LCL-2012-guidelines.html>

SKCC Sprint

00:00 - 02:00 UTC 26 December

Mode: CW

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: (none)

Exchange: RST, name, state, province or country and SKCC no or power

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO; Bonus Points: 5 points per Centurion member QSO per band; 10 points per Tribune member QSO per band; 25 points per QSO with SKCC club call (K9SKC) per band

Multipliers: Each state, province or country once

Score Calculation: Total score = (total QSO points x total mults) and bonus points

Submit logs by: 23:59 UTC 28 December 2012

E-mail log summary to: (none)

Post log summary at: <http://www.skccgroup.com/sprint/sks/sks-submit.html>

Mail logs to: (none)





Find rules at: <http://www.skccgroup.com/sprint/sks/>

DARC Christmas Contest

08:30 - 10:59 UTC 26 December

Mode: CW, SSB

Bands: 80, 40 m

Classes: Single Op Mixed - low or high; Single Op CW - low or high

Max operating hours: 2,5 hours

Max power: HP: >100 W; LP: <=100 W

Exchange: DL: RS(T) and DOK (or special station abbreviation); non-DL: RS(T) and QSO no

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 1 point

Multipliers: DOK/Special Stations, once per band; Prefixes, once per band

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x (total DOK/Special Station mults and total prefix mults)

Submit logs by: 14 January 2013

E-mail logs to: xmas@dxhf.darc.de

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: <http://www.darc.de/referate/dx/contest/xmas/en/rules/>

CWops Mini-CWT Test

13:00 - 14:00 UTC and 19:00 - 20:00 UTC 26 December and 03:00 - 04:00 UTC 27 December

Mode: CW

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: Single Op QRP, low or high

Max power: HP: >100 watts; LP: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts

Exchange: Member: Name and member no; non-Member: Name and state, province or country

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO

Multipliers: Each call once

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 04:00 UTC 29 December 2012

Post log summary at: <http://www.hornucopia.com/3830score/>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: <http://www.cwops.org/onair.html>

NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint

01:30 - 03:30 UTC 27 December

Mode: CW

Bands: 80, 40, 20 m

Classes: (none)

Max power: <1 watt

Exchange: RST, state, province or country and NAQCC no or power

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO with non-member, 2 points per QSO with member

Multipliers: Each state, province or country once

Key Type Mult: 2 x if straight key, 1,5 x if bug, 1 x if other

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults x key type mult

Submit logs by: 23:59 UTC 30 December 2012

E-mail logs to: nqcc33@windstream.net





Upload log at: <http://naqcc.info/sprintlog.html>

Mail logs to: John Shannon, K3WWP, 478 E. High St., Kittanning, PA 16201, USA

Find rules at: <http://naqcc.info/sprint2012mw.html>

NCCC Sprint

02:30 - 03:00 UTC 28 December

Mode: (see rules)

Bands: (see rules)

Classes: (none)

Exchange: (see rules)

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 30 December 2012

E-mail logs to: (none)

Post log summary at: <http://www.hornucopia.com/3830score/>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: <http://www.ncccsprint.com/rules.html>

RAC Winter Contest

00:00 - 23:59 UTC 29 December

Mode: CW, Phone

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, 6, 2m

Classes: Single Op All Band - QRP, low or high; Single Op CW; Single Op Phone; Single Op Single Band Multi-Single - low or high; Multi-Multi

Max operating hours: 24 hours

Max power: HP: >100 watts; LP: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts

Exchange: VE: RS(T) and province or territory; non-VE and VEO: RS(T) and serial no

QSO Points: VE/VEO: 10 points; non-VE/VEO: 2 points; RAC official stations: 20 points

Multipliers: VE provinces and territories (13), once per mode per band

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 31 January 2013

E-mail logs to: canadawinter@rac.ca

Mail logs to: Radio Amateurs of Canada, 720 Belfast Road, Suite 217, Ottawa, Ontario K1G 0Z5, Canada

Find rules at:

<http://www.rac.ca/en/rac/programmes/contests/files/2012%20Canada%20Winter%20Rules%20French-English.pdf>

World Wide Iron Ham Contest

12:00 UTC 29 December to 1159Z 30 December

Mode: CW, Phone, RTTY

Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: Single Op All Band; Multi-Operator Two Transmitter

Max operating hours: 8 hours per mode in periods no shorter than one hour each

Max power: 1 500 watts

Exchange: RS(T) and CQ Zone

Work stations: Once per mode per band

QSO Points: 1 point QSO with same DXCC entity; 2 points per QSO with same continent, different DXCC entity; 3 points per QSO with different continent

Multipliers: Each DXCC entity once per mode; Each CQ zone once per mode

Score Calculation: Total score = sum of mode scores (total QSO mode points x total mode mults)





Submit logs by: 12:00 UTC 2 January 2012

E-mail logs to: wwih@araucariadx

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: http://www.araucariadx.com/ih/IRON_HAM_CONTEST_ENGLISH.pdf

Stew Perry Topband Challenge

15:00 UTC 29 December to 15:00 UTC 30 December

Mode: CW

Bands: 160 m Only

Classes: Single Op; Multi-Op

Max operating hours: 14 hours

Max power: HP: >100 watts; LP: 5 - 100 watts; QRP: <5 watts

Exchange: 4-Character grid square

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO plus 1 point per 500 km; multiply QSO points by 2 if low power station; multiply QSO points by 4 if QRP station

Multipliers: Low power: x 1.5; QRP: x 3

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x power multiplier

Submit logs by: 29 January 2013

E-mail logs to: tbdc@contesting.com

Mail logs to: BARC, 15125 SE Bartell Rd, Boring, OR 97009, USA

Find rules at: <http://www.kkn.net/stew/>

Original QRP Contest

15:00 UTC 29 December to 15:00 UTC 30 December

Mode: CW

Bands: 80, 40, 20 m

Classes: Single Op - VLP, QRP or MP - handmade or open

Max operating hours: 15 hours

Max power: VLP: 1 W; QRP: 5 W; MP: 20 W

Exchange: RST, serial no, "/" and power category

QSO Points: QSO with station who submits log: 4 points

QSO with station that does not submit log: 1 point; 15% bonus for use of TR/TRX assembled from kit; 30% bonus for use of unique handmade TR/TRX

Multipliers: DXCC Countries: 2 mult points if station submits log, 1 mult point if no log

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mult points

Submit logs by: 31 January 2013

E-mail logs to: oqrpc@qrpcc.de

Mail logs to: Lutz Gutheil, DL1RNN, Bergstrasse 17, D-38446 Wolfsburg, Germany

Find rules at: <http://www.qrpcc.de/contestrules/oqrpr.html>

Next Week's Contests

AGB New Year Snowball Contest, 00:00 - 01:00 UTC 1 January

SARTG New Year RTTY Contest, 08:00 - 11:00 UTC 1 January

AGCW Happy New Year Contest, 09:00 - 12:00 UTC 1 January

QRP Fox Hunt, 02:00 - 03:30 UTC 2 January

QRP Fox Hunt, 02:00 - 03:30 UTC 4 January

NCCC Sprint Ladder, 02:30 - 03:00 UTC 4 January

PODXS 070 Club PSKFest, 00:00 - 24:00 UTC 5 January





QRP ARCI Pet Rock Celebration, 15:00 - 18:00 UTC 5 January
ARRL RTTY Roundup, 18:00 UTC 5 January to 24:00 UTC 6 January
EUCW 160 m Contest, 20:00 - 23:00 UTC 5 January and 04:00 - 07:00 UTC 6 January
Kid's Day Contest, 18:00 - 23:59 UTC 6 January
ARS Spartan Sprint, 02:00 - 04:00 UTC 8 January

History This Week

A look back at events that made history this week - compiled by the Summerland Amateur Radio Club of Lismore, NSW and Dennis, ZS4BS. The week starting Monday 24 December 2012.

597 - England adopted the Julian calendar. In the year 46 BC, Julius Caesar reformed the Roman calendar.
1666 - Seven mathematicians and seven physicists meeting in the king's library founded the French Academy of Sciences
1741 - Astronomer Anders Celsius (1701 - 44) devised the Centigrade temperature scale
1839 John William Draper took a daguerreotype of the moon, the first celestial photograph made in the US
1879 - Thomas A. Edison privately demonstrated his incandescent light at Menlo Park, New Jersey
1889 - A bicycle with a back-pedal brake was patented by Daniel Stover and William Hance of Freeport, Ill
1893 - Henry Ford completed his first useful gas motor
1906 - Reginald A. Fessenden gave what is generally considered to be the first broadcast of entertainment by radio
January 1 was a busy day!
5777 BC - Origin of Solar Cycle
4714 BC - Origin of Julian Period (Year 0)
4713 BC - Julian Year 1 begins, at Greenwich mean noon (Modern definition)
0045 BC - Origin of Julian Era; Julian calendar begins
0038 BC - Origin of Era of Spain (Cesars)
0030 BC - Origin of Actian Era
0001 BC - Origin of Era of Pisa
0001 - Origin of Christian Era
1622 - Papal Chancery adopts 1 January as the beginning of the year (previously it was 25 March)
1896 - Wilhelm Röntgen announces his discovery of x-rays
1901 - Australia becomes a united Commonwealth of six British colonies
1902 - Nathan B. Stubblefield gave the first radio broadcast demonstration in the US
1903 - The first transpacific cable from the US was landed at Honolulu, Hawaii
1972 - Coordinated Universal Time (UTC) was adopted worldwide
2000 - Greenwich Electronic Time, known as GeT, was initiated in Britain

Items used with acknowledgement to The ARRL Letter, Amateur Radio Newsline, OPDX Bulletin, 425 DX Bulletin, DXNL Bulletin, ARRL DX News, WIA-News, the RSGB News and Southgate ARC

